



# **Working Group on Beet Questions**

**CEFS Congress**  
**8<sup>th</sup> of June 2017**

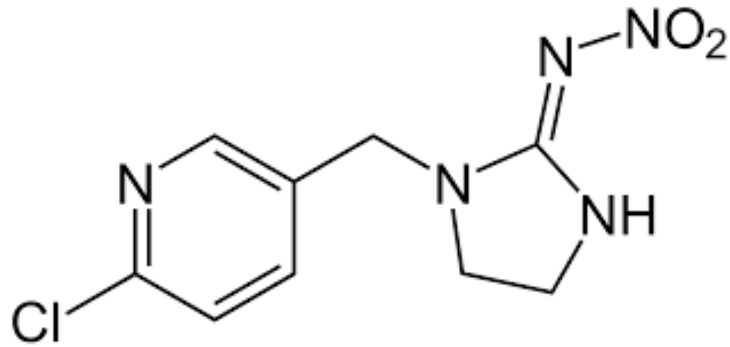
# Meetings

**Last meeting : 15 March 2017**

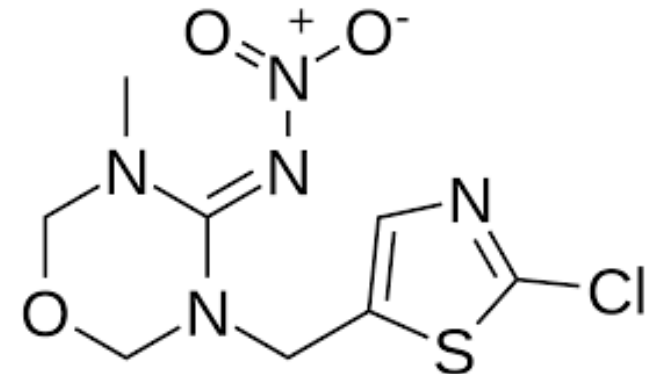
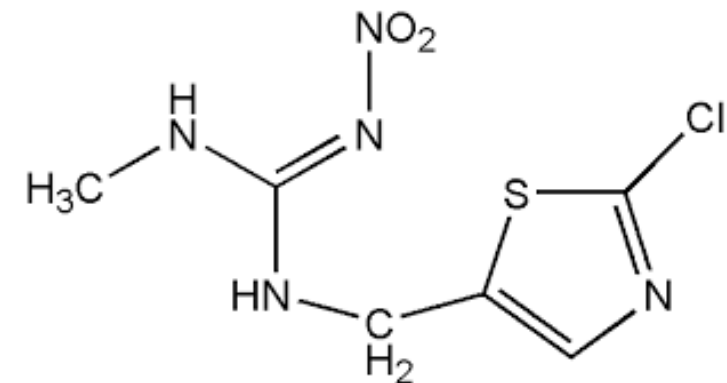
**Next meeting : 19 & 20 October 2017, France**

# Summary

- 1. Update on the EU review of the three neonicotinoid insecticides.**
- 2. Commission poised to table a proposal for the renewal of glyphosate for 10 years.**



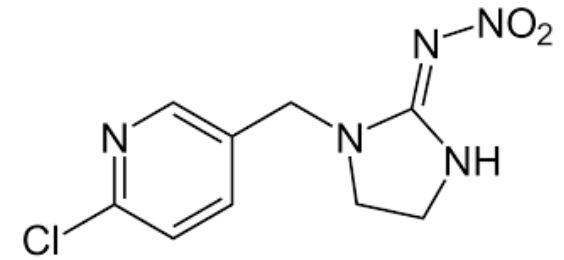
# 1. Update on the EU review of the three neonicotinoid insecticides



# 1. Timeline of the neonicotinoid ban (I)

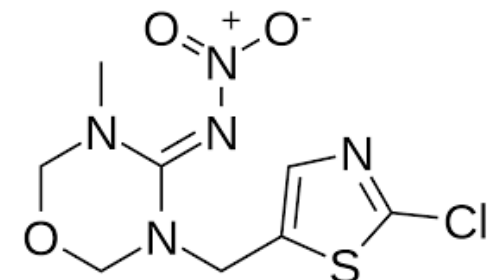
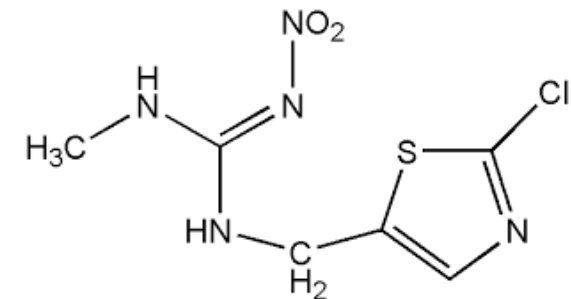
2013 – EU Commission decision to restrict the use of three neonicotinoids:

- ✓ Clothianidin (CTD)
- ✓ Imidacloprid (IMD)
- ✓ Thiamethoxam (TMX)

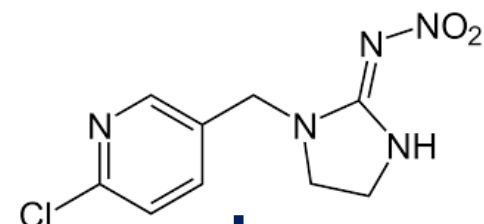


July 2015 – EFSA publishes its reports on foliar uses for CTD, IMD & TMX

Regulation 485/2013: « For remaining uses, **additional confirmatory data are to be required & evaluated** »



# 1. Timeline of the neonicotinoid ban (II)



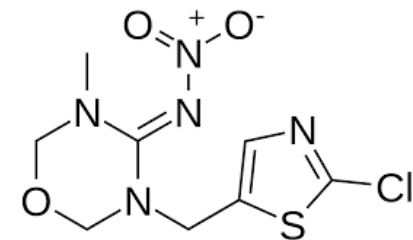
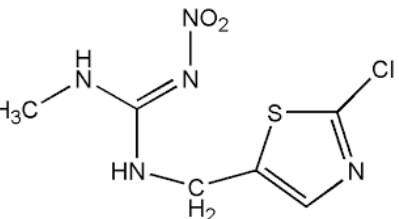
**November 2016 – EFSA confirmatory reports for IMD & CTD on seed treatments published.**

**No report provided for TMX...yet.**

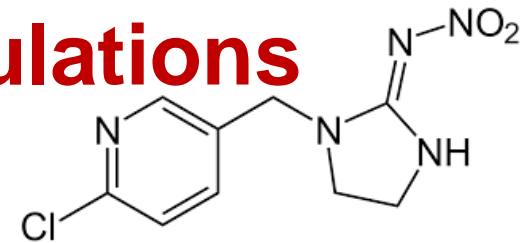
**January 2017 – Commission prepared draft proposals for Implementing Regulations to amend conditions for use of all three.**

**21 March – DG SANTE shares Regulation proposals the night before the SCOPAFF meeting.**

**17-18 May – SCOPAFF meeting ( no vote...yet!)**



# 1. The Draft DG SANTE Implementing Regulations

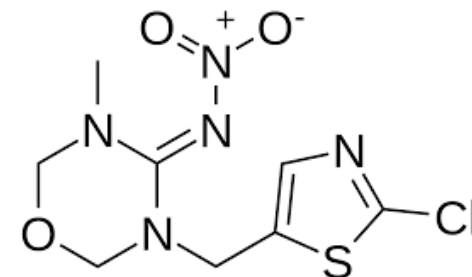
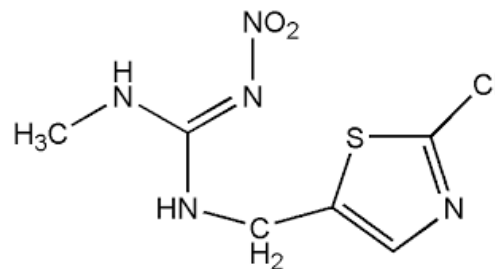


Draft DG SANTE Regulation proposals extend the ban to seed treatments including for sugarbeet.

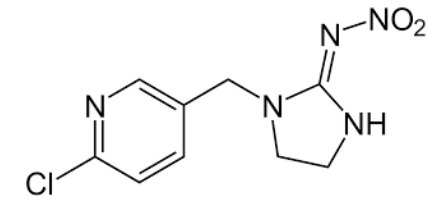
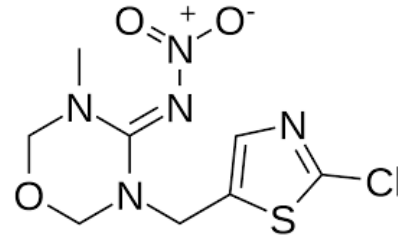
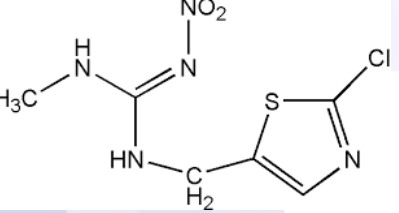
Article 2 ( CTD & IMD):

« ...seeds treated with plant protection products containing CTD/IMD may not be placed on the market or used, **with the exception of seeds to be used in permanent greenhouses...**

In particular for CTD sugarbeet is mentioned in exposure via dust to have a « high risk of exposure of bees ».



# 1. CEFS actions after 23 March (I)



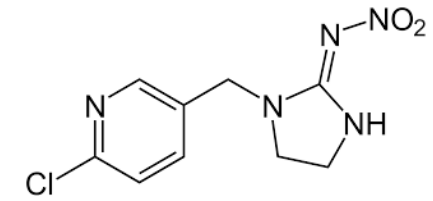
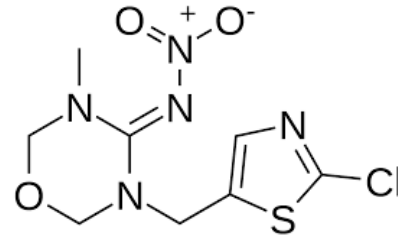
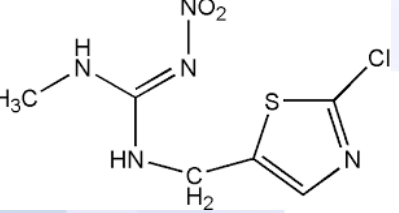
CEFS met with **DG SANTE** on the **15th of March** –Comments on EC proposal:

- ❖ Split views expected from Member States: **bee health versus EU agriculture**
- ❖ Health **Commissioner Andriukaitis very keen** to eliminate the risk to bees.
- ❖ If **no agreement between M.S** then **Commission can adopt** the proposal.
- ❖ **NGOs** have put **considerable pressure** on the Commission on biodiversity.
- ❖ **Beet growers** can use **pyrethroids** despite this meaning repetitive spraying.





# 1. CEFS actions after 23 March (II)

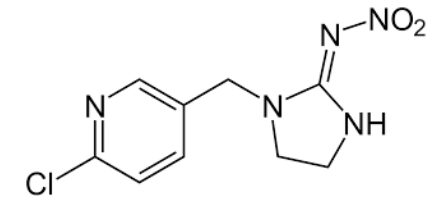
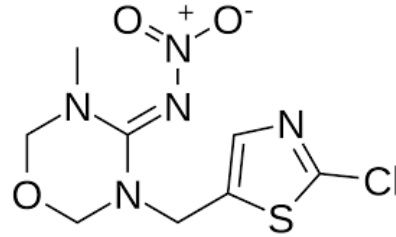
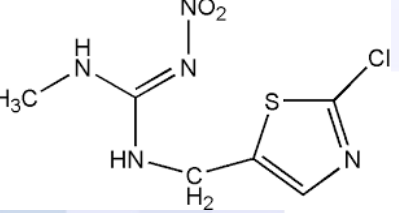


**12 April** – CEFS adopted a **position paper** on not extending the ban:

1. Risk to pollinators in use of neonicotinoids in sugarbeet is very low.
2. Alternative insecticides would be more damaging to environment & bees.
3. Ban would harm yields and productivity.
4. Ban to have damaging consequences for long-term economic and sustainable prospects of the sector.

Working group members sent the position paper to the members of the SCOPAFF Committee and the ministries.

# 1. CEFS actions after 23 March (III)



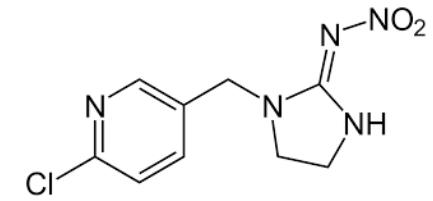
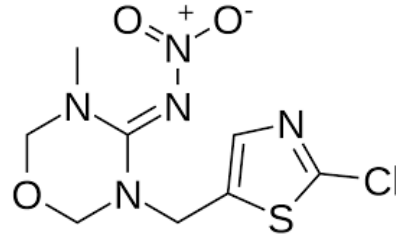
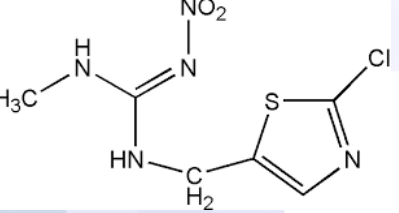
## 21 & 24 April – CIBE & CEFS slam Commission proposals to extend ban:

- ❖ 2 x 3-page letters to Commissioners Andriukaitis & Hogan
- ❖ Proposals are « *overly restrictive* ».
- ❖ Banning neonicotinoids in sugarbeet likely to result in farmers using whole-field insecticide spray applications – negative impact on non-target organisms
- ❖ Longterm damage on the efficiency of the entire sugar value chain.

Letters also sent to the SCOPAFF members and the ministries.

CEFS forwarded the letter to Copa & Cogeca.

# 1. CEFS actions after 23 March (IV)



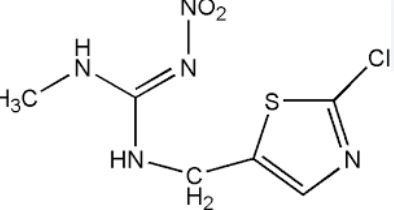
**9th of May – Copa & Cogeca writes to the same Commissioners on behalf of an agri-food coalition.**

10 associations involved.

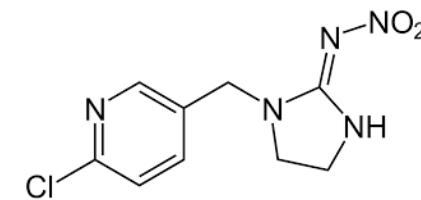
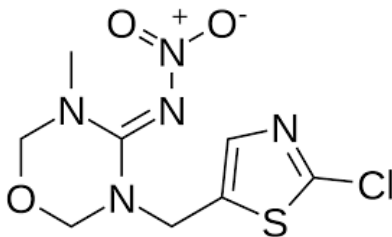
CEFS and CIBE amongst the co-signatories

## **Key points:**

- ❖ **Cannot support Draft Bee guidance document.**
- ❖ **Commission decision was taken without an Impact Assessment.**
- ❖ **Commission should therefore withdraw their proposal.**



# 1. Next steps



**SCOPAFF Committee last met on 17-18 May.**

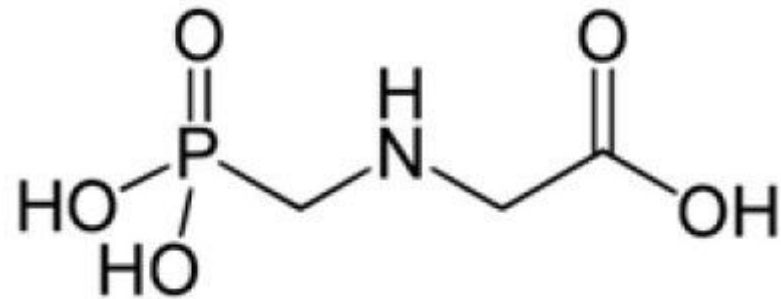
**No vote took place but the subject will ascend to the Council of Commissioners.**

**CEFS will need to keep monitoring the situation.**

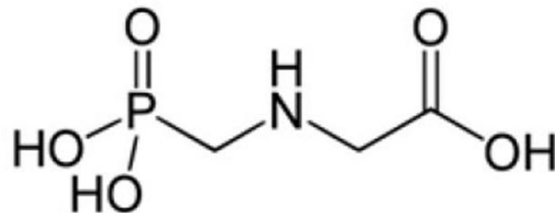
**Proposal vote unlikely to take place before July.**

**Besides the Permanent Representations the only other ally is Commissioner Hogan and DG AGRI.**

## 2. Commission poised to table a proposal for the renewal of glyphosate for 10 years.



## 2. Update on discussions at the College of Commissioners



**18 May – Commissioner Andriukaitis informs the discussions with Member States will restart:**

**Renewal period of glyphosate will be for 10 years rather than 15 years.**

**No discussion held as the proposal was given via an « *information note* ».**

## 2. The current positions of the Commissioners

### Extention of 10 years rather than 15 years

**FOR**



**AGAINST**



## 2. Commissioner Hogan's view



**15 May – Commissioner of Agriculture addressed the EU Parliament's AGRI Committee on glyphosate:**

- ❖ **Chemical agencies and EFSA have extensively analysed the toxicity of the substance.**
- ❖ **Extension should be the result of a science-based approach.**

**Moreover ECHA risk assessment ( 15 March) has classified the substance as non –carcinogenic.**



## **2. Actions at EU Parliament level & Citizens**

**ENVI Committee : Oral Question on glyphosate renewal at June Plenary in Strasbourg + Joint hearing with AGRI.**

**S&D to establish a Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry or Special Committee on glyphosate, if necessary.**

**On the other hand:**

**EU Citizens Initiative petition to ban glyphosate (745000 signatories).**

## **2. Next steps**

**New proposal for re-authorisation to be drafted by DG SANTE.**

**Discussions with Member States to be re-launched.**

**Decision has to be taken within 6 months of receipt of ECHA opinion or by the end of 2017.**

**Copa Cogeca has already slammed the 10-year renewal proposal.**

**Is there a need for a second letter from the agri-food chain coalition?**

**Thank you**

